



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

MEETING MINUTES

September 3, 2014

Members Present:

John Haneski, Anne Ganakas, Toni Griffin, Larry Leatherwood and Erik Hansen

Members Absent:

Justin Himebaugh, Bob Thelen, Robert Wilson, and Richard Watkins

Staff Members Present:

Ed Reed

1. Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order by Chair John Haneski at 4:06 p.m.

2. Set/Adjust Agenda**3. Approve Minutes – June 4, 2014:**

Erik Hansen motioned the minutes be accepted as submitted. Anne Ganakas supported. All agreed. Motion carried.

4. Staff Update:

Ed Reed provided an update, which included the following items:

- 603 North Waverly (former Auto Mall)
- Little Caesars Pizza's is moving from Elmwood into the former Big John's Steak & Onion location
- Baryames facility on Creyts & Saginaw has been rezoned and Genius Phone Repair has moved in due to this rezoning
- A new business, Red Fox Comics, has moved into Brookside Complex behind Outback Steakhouse
- Airlift is adding 40,000 sq. ft.
- D&K Truck (former Starlight Drive-In site) is constructing a building. They are moving from Lansing and is approximately and \$8 million project.
- Toby Keith's is moving into the Lansing Mall and is targeted to open in December
- Lansing Towne Center (Plaza in front of the Target store) the Optician's office is moving around the corner, which will make room for a restaurant format with visibility on Saginaw Highway.
- In the Delta Center (by Hobby Lobby) a Chinese restaurant is coming soon.

- The Deputy Township Manager has resigned and I have picked up some of her projects.
- At the Township Board meeting this evening they will be reviewing applications for the Township Manager's position.
- There is a possibility of a Brownfield Project in the near future.
- Working closely with the Eyde's and their representatives on their site on the northwest quadrant of Saginaw Highway and I-96. They want to break ground this year on a 125 unit Senior Housing Project.
- Attended the Annual MEDA Conference in the northern part of Michigan, which had a lot of great sessions.

A discussion among the Committee members with regard to additional banners along Saginaw Highway followed Ed Reed's update, which included costs, placement in other areas of the township, timeline, possible art and other types of signage for the township.

A motion was made by Toni Griffin for the EDC to commit up to \$10K towards additional banners to be installed from Elmwood Road to Canal Road for a stretch of 2 miles, with the Township paying installation costs. Anne Ganakas seconded this motion. A roll call was taken with all members present voting, for a total of five yes votes.

Larry Leatherwood suggested the purchase of a monument sign with EDC funds (as opposed to the Township matching EDC funds). Larry stated we need to get the Township Board to feel that the EDC is a valuable component the Township.

Eric Hansen stated that actions speak louder than words, that if the (Township Board sees the EDC) as having a meeting once a quarter and we don't ever do anything, that is one thing; but if they see the EDC having a meeting and we authorize to pay for another 2 miles (of banners), then we have another meeting and we authorize to pay half (of the cost of a monument) sign, then we have another meeting and we come up with a plan for other signs, they will say oh wow, these guys are active.

Anne Ganakas stated that she felt the Board already feels (positive towards the EDC), from discussions she has had with Township Board members. She then asked if an electronic sign would require Board approval.

Ed Reed indicated that a monument sign would have to be approved by the Board as they would be paying well over half, which is enough money that it would have to have Board action.

Anne Ganakas then asked if by the time we meet again in December that we could have the quote for the sign.

Ed Reed indicated that he certainly hopes that he will have the quotes by then.

5. Member Comments:

None provided.

6. Other Business:

John Hanieski stated that he is actively involved with the League of Women Voters and they are having a Voter Forum for the 71st House District. This forum will be held on October 7th, at 7 p.m., at Grand Ledge City Hall.

7. Set Next Meeting Date (December 3, 2014):

8. Adjournment:

Erik Hansen moved to adjourn; supported by Anne Ganakas. All ayes; the meeting was adjourned at 5:08 p.m.